

Cultural Proficiency Advocacy Team (CPAT) Debuts

The Cultural Proficiency Advocacy Team (CPAT) was introduced to the presbytery at the March meeting. The mission of the group is "to demonstrate the need for awareness and appreciation of cultural differences, celebrating our oneness in Christ by providing conversation, education and resources." Each of the five members shared a common learning experience last summer at Ghost Ranch, adding to the already extensive training of four of the five. After being incorporated into the work of the Mission Support Committee, all this was brought to the presbytery with an exercise based on a quotation from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The CPAT is available to church groups, congregations, clusters of churches, and the presbytery. Their desire is to assist in bridging the gap between different cultures, so that Presbyterian congregations can become

more welcoming to all of God's people.

The five members of CPAT are Co-Chair Sid Birt, who teaches multicultural counseling and education at the college level, Co-Chair Linda Shaw who, along with Sid, is one of several trained facilitators for the PCUSA on anti-racism and cultural proficiency, Lori Welch who works for the Intercultural Communications Institute training business and educational leaders in both international and domestic intercultural contexts, Ted Envela, a native of Equatorial Guinea who has experienced decolonization in his birth land and cultural integration in the U.S., and Don Shaw, HR, long time pastor in Cascades Presbytery.

For more information and to explore hosting a CPAT event at your church, contact cascadescpat@yahoo.com or Linda Shaw at 541-548-8637.



Ted Envela urges Presbyters to use the services of CPAT

Joining Hands with Bolivia Team Goes to Idaho



Left to right: Don Shaw, Ali Kent, Linda Shaw, Brad Kent, Chenoa Stock, and Gretchen Williver

Several Joining Hands delegations have traveled from Cascades Presbytery to Bolivia and learned about some of the pollution issues created by the mining industry there. Repeatedly our Bolivian partners have asked these visitors, "How do you do mining in the United States?"

Realizing that none of us knew very much about mining, we decided to visit Silver Valley, Idaho, one of the richest mining areas in the U.S.A. and also our largest EPA Superfund site. We listened to various views and learned that the ecologists are very concerned about the lead levels in the environment and the ways in which this is being addressed, while the mine owners and workers focused on employment and the economy. By the end of our trip, we concluded that the issues and the interests surrounding mining and pollution in Idaho are very similar to those in Bolivia.

The fundamental question is this: How can the mineral wealth of a region be extracted so as to maximize jobs and profit while minimizing the environmental impact on the surrounding area?

Cents-Ability Materials online

By action of the Cascades Presbytery Council, the Cents-Ability offering is part of every presbytery meal. Cents-Ability origi-

nated in 1976 as "Two-Cents-A-Meal," a project begun by Presbyterian Women to involve individuals and families in a corporate response to world hunger. The basic concept is simple - at every meal, each person puts two cents into the Cents-Ability bank. If everyone participates, a 100 person congregation will contribute \$180 a month at two cents a meal. That's \$2,160 dollars a year, for hunger work.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program has completed the process of placing Cents-Ability resource materials online. Most printed materials, including the notebook, customizable bulletin inserts, can wrappers, logos and brochures can be downloaded at no cost from <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/what-cents-ability/>. Plastic banks (\$5.00 for a pack of 20), table tents (\$5.00 for 10) as well as free posters, brochures, and logos sheets may be ordered through PDS.

Invitation from German Protestant Church Conference Youth Protestant Conference in Germany

This is an opportunity for two PCUSA representatives to attend the 33rd German Protestant Church Conference, June 1-5, 2011.

The church in Germany will cover food and lodging. Representatives will pay their own airfare. Young adults and adults are welcomed. **There are no funds from our office for this trip.**

If interested, please contact the Department of Ecumenical and Agency Relations, Deborah Harrison, (Deborah.harrison@pcusa.org) or 502-569-5665.

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2011 Deadlines

May 16	Jun/Jul Issue
July 18	Aug/Sept Issue
September 19	Oct/Nov Issue
November 21	Dec/Jan Issue



Mardee Rightmyer, leader of the denomination's Resource Center Association, awards Maureen O'Rourke her certificate.



Omnibus

Omnibus is published six times a year by the Presbytery of the Cascades for distribution to churches and individuals.

Information about the Presbytery is also available on the web site: www.cascadespresbytery.org.

Omnibus welcomes news and views of all the churches of Presbytery and all its readers. Send all communications to Kathy Waugh, Omnibus editor, 85 South Holly, Medford, OR 97501, tel. 541-772-4874, email omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org.

Omnibus retains permission to modify submissions for clarity and space limitations. The Presbytery Communications Team is the editorial board.

Cascades Resource Center Director Is Awarded Full Certification

Maureen O'Rourke, Director of the Cascades Resource Media Center was awarded full certification in the field of resource center leadership at the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators' Conference held early February, 2011.

O'Rourke had to attend three, week-long workshops over the course of three years. Then she had to do a project that would be "useful to my Presbytery."

Maureen's project came about after she discovered that she wasn't the only one who had problems following the Presbyterian language. "For several years when I first started attending a Presbyterian church, I remember having to ask 'what does that acronym stand for?' I also would often need an explanation of what that particular group or committee does," O'Rourke stated.

On Easter Sunday, the Deacons at her church (**Orengo, Hillsboro**) cook a free breakfast and invite the surrounding community. A non-Presbyterian neighbor sitting next to her saw the tabletop deacons' "free will offering" basket and asked me what a deacon is and what they do around the church. "During my explanation, I found myself using some acronyms and this inquirer had to stop me and ask what they stood for."

It clicked then; here was an unmet need: simple explanations of various Presbyterian subjects using absolutely no acronyms. So O'Rourke's project was born. A brochure was developed and published and is now on the Presbytery's website. It is open-ended and could continue to be built upon and most of it is relevant to other Presbyteries around the country. The language is geared towards the new Christian. Each one is intentionally short so the information can be used in any Presbyterian church's monthly newsletter or bulletin.

Folks are welcome to use it in their churches. O'Rourke only asks that you let her know that you used it and how it was used.

Presbytery of the Cascades

MEDIA RESOURCE CENTER

The Media Resource Center is located in Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont, Portland.

Although the Media Resource Center is usually only staffed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, you may ask any employee at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church to let you in at other times and days. There is a clipboard for checking out items, for three weeks - longer if needed for a study. Items can be renewed if there are no "holds". You may reserve by phone at 503-445-4999 or 866-200-5660, or by linking through the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.



Here are some "educational" items to borrow from your Media Resource Center. Your only cost is the return postage - should you choose to mail it back. They can be returned at the Presbytery meetings, also. Take advantage of your free lending library!

New: *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian,?* by Martin Thielen (157 pgs): Dr. Thielen, a Methodist minister, pens a very readable, entertaining, and thought-provoking tome. Don't be put off by the title; Dr. Thielen explains why he used the title in the first few pages. "With this book Thielen invites readers into a safe space to ask the tough questions surrounding our most commonly held beliefs. He concludes by saying that doubt not only goes hand in hand with faith, but actually enhances it." S. Baker

New: *The Pastoral Search Journey - a guide to finding your next pastor*, by John Vohnhof (168 pages): Vohnhof provides detailed guidance for search committees to ensure a good match between pastor and congregation. This is Vohnhof's third book about the pastoral search—but the first to discuss interim pastors, transitions between pastors, and the use of the Internet and digital media. Vohnhof advises congregational leaders on establishing the search committee, ensuring the congregation is cared for during the pastoral vacancy, conducting the congregational self-study and creating an information packet; finding, communicating with, and interviewing candidates; determining selection criteria as well as evaluating and recommending candidates; managing call negotiations; and finally welcoming the congregation's new pastor. Sample letters, forms, and other tools are provided. This is expanded and revised from his 1999 book with a similar title.

New: *Darwin's Dilemma - The mystery of the Cambrian Fossil record*. DVD (72 min.): The Cambrian explosion was one of the most spectacular events in the history of life. In a short window of geological time an abundance of new animals - and new animal designs - arose fully formed without evidence of any evolutionary ancestors. Filmed on four continents, this documentary examines some of the most important fossil discoveries ever made and with them, a mystery deeper than Darwin ever imagined.

Director's pick: Are you a person who likes to read short stories? There is a series of four video (VHS) tapes in the Resource Center that is under-utilized and that I highly recommend. It is: *Listening for God - contemporary literature and the life of faith*. You can learn about the author from a video clip, then read the story and if you are really motivated study the questions in the guide. Leader's guide and study session plans included, if you want to use it in a book club. The first video in the series features: Flannery O'Connor, Frederick Buechner, Annie Dillard, Garrison Keillor and four others. Ask for: VTGHX047. You can read about the other three tapes and what authors they feature by going online to the Resource Center's home page. Hit the purple print that says: Search the Media Catalog and do a title search "*Listening for God*." This would be a good practice try for those of you who are unsure how to search using this method.

Happy Spring to you! **Maureen O'Rourke**, CRCD

Cascades Viewpoints

By Cathy Quackenbush, Stated Clerk

I've decided that one of the most exciting and inspiring aspects of my job as Stated Clerk is preparing and facilitating presbytery meetings. I don't know how many Presbyterians actually think of presbytery meetings as exciting and inspiring, but it is my vision that everyone would.

One of the aspects of presbytery meetings that thrills me is that it is a group effort. Starting several months before a stated meeting, presbytery committees of all kinds are doing their work on behalf of all churches, and they will have much to report that has happened since the last meeting. During the months before a stated meeting, churches are undergoing transitions, pastors are leaving or arriving, anniversaries are being celebrated, sabbaticals are being planned, building projects are in the works, and new ministries are being formed.

During the months before a stated meeting, a church in one of the regions has agreed to host a meeting. Perhaps most of the congregation is going to be a part of the serving, or greeting, or cooking, or furniture moving, or direction giving, choir practicing, and more. The preparation all starts months ahead!

About six weeks before a stated meeting, the Worship Design Team meets at the host church. They meet with the worship leaders and meeting planners to collaborate on meaningful worship throughout the coming meeting.

Around that time, the Presbytery Council meets to pull together all the items that need lifting up for the next meeting as well as to decide how best to arrange the items on the docket. What workshops are being proposed? What speakers will be invited? What business matters are timely and pressing? What issues need to come before the Body of Christ in the Presbytery of the Cascades? Input is received from every group, channeled through the designated leaders.

All the information and planning might be described by a phrase a minister colleague recently used, as "Holy Chaos." This "Holy Chaos" somehow comes together a few days before the given date as a "meeting." But the work isn't over yet. Though the Moderator keeps track of and guides the business, there is so much which is still left up to those who are participating and especially to the Holy Spirit. It is really all the Presbyterians who

drive from North and South and East and West, and the Holy Spirit working through and among them, that make it a meeting!

During the recent stated meeting in March we realized more than ever that the docket is only a plan. How that plan plays out is up to the participants mentioned above. As one commissioner put it, "The docket has to be fluid. This was the fastest moving docket on a Friday afternoon ever. Actually, it was fun!" Not only do the participants make the plan a living document, they also make the discussions and the conversations what they will be. To quote another, "The questions discussed in groups were lively." Other descriptions used were "very worthwhile," and "valuable." Another commissioner found that the meeting was exhausting, emotional, and productive." There was "lots to listen to, lots to decide."

During this last meeting there was much concern voiced by participants about issues that divide us. As a rule, Cascades folks tend to not like discord, and some of that was experienced as we debated the Constitutional

Amendment 10-A. More than one person expressed concern that lining up on opposing sides didn't feel good. How can we disagree and still stand together? How can we disagree without making anybody feel unwelcome? These are questions that I and all who care as deeply about presbytery meetings and our brothers and sisters in Christ will be grappling with as we process the details and decisions from the March meeting and look forward to being together again in June.

A colleague recently asked me why I love helping plan presbytery meetings. I replied that, for me it is like planning a worship service. "You mean you see a presbytery meeting as worship?" my colleague asked. Yes, I suppose I do. And like a meaningful worship service, I would like each meeting to be a transformative mix of prayer, learning, prayer, community-building, praise, announcements or business, and oh yes, did I mention prayer? Won't you join me in working with the Holy Spirit and each other to make it so?

Discovery Retreat Introduces the Presbytery to New Members



Participants in the Discovery Retreat, Feb 28-March 2, 2011: L to R: David Jewel, Hugh Anderson, David Nelson, Cathy Quackenbush, Matt Overton, Sherry Johnston, Greg Bolt, Rebecca Chancellor, John Mahon. The purpose of the Discovery Retreat is to introduce new minister members of the Presbytery to its activities and supportive services.



Ask the Clerk

By Cathy Quackenbush,
Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Cascades

How do I find how other presbyteries are voting on the 219th General Assembly Amendments to the Constitution?

As the presbyteries vote to concur or not to concur with the amendments to the Constitution from the 219th General Assembly, the results are reported to the public. You can now easily find a list of the reported votes of the presbyteries by going to the PCUSA webpage. Click on "Resources." When the "Resources" page comes

up, click on "Voting Tallies for Proposed Amendments to the Constitution." All the amendments, A through O, are listed there. You have to click one more time on "Download the PDF Document." There you will find the amendments listed with the affirmative and negative votes given so far. You will also find how many presbyteries have voted, how many are yet to vote, and how many votes are still needed for each amendment to pass. There is opportunity on the web page to join a national discussion about the amendments or to send information to your friends or to post on Facebook. Our Presbyterian process is getting more participatory all the time if you are logged on the web!

As of March 15, 2011, the report indicates that many of the amendments have already received the required majority of votes to become a change in the *Book of Order*. Two amendments that have not yet received a majority of the votes are the New Form of Government, and 10-A, Gifts and Requirements - On Amending G-6.0106b.

As of this writing, Cascades Presbytery's recent votes are not yet included in the tallies. Those amendments to the *Book of Order* that do pass will be included in the 2011-2013 *Book of Order*. On July 10, 2011, the new *Book of Order* will become effective.

The Belhar Confession will be considered for approval by Cascades Presbytery at its June 2011, stated meeting. Unlike all the other amendments, adding or changing the *Book of Confessions* requires a 2/3 affirmative vote, rather than a simple majority of the presbyteries. You will see on the GA Amendments tally report that it has still not received the required number of affirmative votes to pass. If it does indeed receive these votes, it will have to be taken to the 220th General Assembly in 2012. That assembly would then have to approve or not approve the inclusion of the Belhar Confession.

I'm sure there will be many more opportunities to "Ask the Clerk" if the new Form of Government passes, so stay tuned with your questions.

Positively Presbyterian

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

In the March issue of *The Dove* from **Peace, Eugene** there is a full-page devoted to how couples met prior to their marriage. Thirty-three individuals prepared one line descriptions of their meeting which provided a lovely tableau that love can be found everywhere.

Westminster, Eugene is considering installing solar power to supplement the use of electricity in the church and reduce the CO2 in the atmosphere which is equivalent to 86,000 gallons of gasoline or planting 19,000 trees. It will save the church in excess of \$100,000 over the life of the system. The installation will cost approximately \$180,000 but with 90% of the cost through EWEB rebates and incentives from the government, the final figure is about \$12,000. The tax incentives are transferable to individuals for use in their personal income tax reporting.

First, Salem has employed two 24-year-old individuals to work with the children in the church. Ashley Gruber is the new Children's Ministries Coordinator and comes to Salem from Western Pennsylvania. Ashley says "I love the outdoors, and I am a girl of many passions. Through the years the Lord has done some amazing things in my life." Kevan Hanson is the new Director of Student Ministries and a native of Salem. Kevan comments that "My ongoing relationship to God is one of obedience, one of love, and one of freedom. God has blessed me with tremendous life experiences....and I am truly excited to set my sights on what is in store for me here in Salem."

Stephen Koski, **First, Bend** has a group in the church called the "Green Team" which challenges him to be alert to wasteful use of energy. One of the efforts accomplished was to be able to reduce its Sunday morning worship "paper flow" by two thirds.

In February the youth and students of the Koinonia Campus Ministry of **Central, Eugene** sold Valentine Blankets made by the youth for five dollars each. The proceeds went to Church World Service to purchase blankets for those in need.

Bruce Cameron, **Peace, Eugene** had a nice tribute on the passing of John Fry who published a theological magazine called "Frying Pan." John was a quixotic "Juan Quixote" who filled this journal with great book reviews, arguments for social justice, cultural critiques, and sermons. John wrote a collection of sermons in a book called *Fire and Blackstone*. Fry was called before the House un-American Activities Commission for working with the gang called the Blackstone Rangers and charged with supplying guns to them. It was untrue and the charges were eventually dropped. In the sixties I was privileged to worship in John's church in the ghetto of South Chicago which was an experience still remembered.

(As a reminder, please send copies of your newsletters to John Mahon, Presbytery of the Cascades, 1475 Ferry St., Suite 121-E, Eugene, OR 97401. This will give you an opportunity for the events and activities of your church to have a wider audience in the OMNIBUS.)

Northeast Region

By Nancy Gaston

What do we mean by "church"? We

often use the word to speak of a building where we gather—as in "going to church." But as that song many of us know from Vacation Bible School tells us, "I am the church; you are the church; we are the church together." Tom Shaw of **Smith Memorial, Fairview**, writes of the need for "a healthy balance of feeding and caring for the flock and an outward focus that responds to Jesus' call."

The news from Northeast churches reflects this balance of the church gathered and the church deployed. The church gathered has focused, appropriately enough, on Lent—its disciplines, services and observances.

On Lenten observances, the Rev. Brian Heron of **Eastminster, Portland**, points out, "It's not what you give up during Lent that makes the difference. It's whom you make room for that makes all the difference." Elsewhere, he says, "We have given up on setting goals for our future and have simply adopted a stance of faith. Today let us care for one another. Today let us be compassionate....Tomorrow is best left to God!"

First, Vancouver, is offering a unique Lenten retreat opportunity, inviting participants to use the tools of collage and journal writing on birth, death and renewal, "using these themes to deepen our connections to God and one another." The Rev. Tom Young of **Cherry Park, Troutdale**, described a Lenten practice he'd adopted and recommended: giving up his morning coffee for the season and donating the money saved to Snow-Cap Charities.

The Rev. Tim Vance of **Gateway, The Dalles**, writes movingly of a book he read some time ago—one originally intended for recovering addicts—that gave him an understanding that we are all addicts in the sense of having unhealthy attachments to things. He also reminds us that God is present, not just in the "success stories" but at all times along the journey, even when we're not sure where we're headed.

The church deployed can go far geographically—or work close to home. Jeff Cogen, Chairman of the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, spoke to the folks of **Savage Memorial, Portland**, on the topic: "People of Faith and Local Government—Working together for Social Justice." Justice and mercy close to home also concerned the Rev. Mary McKnight of **Moreland, Portland**, shares what she learned at a conference on local sex trafficking of young women, which she calls "slavery in our own backyard." **Springwater, Estacada**, participated in Interfaith Advocacy Day in Salem to "speak up for the needs of the hungry, homeless, ill and disabled." Jewish, Muslim and Christian advocacy groups participated.

Youth from many local churches were deployed locally and will make an impact internationally through the 30-Hour Famine in its fight against world hunger. **Cascades and First, Vancouver**, joined with **St. John's, Camas**, for the 30-hour fast, local service, and a heightened awareness of the one billion people who go hungry every day as they sought pledges for hunger relief.

Sometimes our serving overcomes interesting barriers. **Columbia, Vancouver**, worked with Medical Teams International on a dental clinic for which the specially equipped van suffered a broken transmission and then a failed generator. Finally a local dental clinic opened its doors and the children and families of McLoughlin Middle School, were treated there.

Milwaukie Presbyterian is serving locally through a tutoring program in which people lend their time and expertise to struggling students of the community ranging from first to twelfth grade. They help with math, geometry, reading, writing, spelling, chemistry and language arts.

And **Mt. Tabor, Portland**, is looking at stewardship of the earth through a "Mindful Living" gathering on environmental health and the theological connections to this issue. They are also part of the Cool Congregations Initiative designed to encourage families to reduce energy use and "live more lightly on the land." A similar emphasis is evident at **Laurelhurst, Portland**, where using mugs rather than Styrofoam cups and installing energy-efficient lighting have been priorities.

Sometimes the church gathered serves beyond its walls through special contributions, one of the most widespread being Souper Bowl of Caring. On the same day as the Super Bowl football game, youth collect contributions of food and money to fight local hunger. **Rose City Park, Portland**, gave its collection to SnowCap Community Charities. **Covenant, Gresham**, contributed theirs to Zarepath's Kitchen in that community.

Being the church very far afield was Bob Fuller of **First, Oregon City**, who traveled to Cameroon to help install wells in villages. Although they were hampered by poor communications (some people didn't know they were coming), lost luggage, bad roads and multiple languages, the group of Christians and Muslims managed to get three wells set up and instruct people on how to maintain them.

Northwest Region

By Bud Frimoth

Clatskanie, "A lamp unto my feet" by the editor suggested a way to "Read through the Bible in a year" one day at a time. A suggested guide was included. Ask them why "orange" has a special meaning for their small groups.

Hillsboro, Some 50 signed up for "Reading the Bible in 90 days" which is another way to accomplish that goal. At least eight groups are organized to encourage fellowship. The Sisters in Christ Women's Health Fair was held.

Multnomah, Portland is sponsoring a Mental Health Group. Youth Mission trip will be to Skagway, AK, to provide a Vacation Bible School and evening youth camp. The Alpha Course of ten weeks begins later this month.

First, Newberg - Peter Blank shared the Norse legend, "The visit of Thor" and how it addresses us as Christians. Also do you know about Choglit soda or OK soda? These are failures by Coca-Cola "risk-adverse" culture. It says something for the church to learn as well.

St. Andrews, Portland - A ten-minute "break out" in worship allowed worshippers to participate in one of five contemplative prayer stations. During Lent the services will be fashioned after the last week of Jesus' life to provide more understanding and depth.

Tualatin, "To clap or not" is a lead article by the choir director about music shared in worship. "Healthy Hints" by their Parish Nurse is another feature. What word got the ancient church father, Origen in trouble? Ask them!

(Continued on page 5)

Positively Presbyterian

(Continued from page 4)

Lake Grove, Lake Oswego in cooperation with NW Housing Alternatives, broke ground for 44 units. Mission outreach to Navajo Nation in summer and reports from Senegal Go Team are part of their ministries.

Plymouth, St. Helens - What do you think might have been the original GPS system? Their pastor thinks it might be the word of the Lord in the ears of the exiles trying to find their way home out of Egypt and the calling we receive to follow Jesus.

Calvin, Tigard - Wednesdays in Lent will offer a course, "Biblical themes in movies". Endowment Fund grants again are available thru the church. Preaching in Lent will follow the words of the Lord's Prayer.

First, Portland - "Japan: Shared Metaphors" watercolor artistry is shared during Lent in their Chapel Gallery. A Certificate of Appreciation was given by the Portland Police Bureau for the work of the Julia West House dealing with the needs of homeless and low income people in the heart of the city.

Orengo, Hillsboro - Alpha and A Life Worth Living classes on Philippians are going strong on Wednesday evenings, and planning for Vacation Bible School in summer is underway.

Pioneer, Warrenton - Members help serve lunch at the Warrenton Senior center every month. Dorothy Boyle's column included 10 things never heard in church - one of which was, "Personally, I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf!"

Southminster, Beaverton - had their 33rd "Celebration of Creativity" including a concert by the John Nilsen trio. A grand women's retreat includes a writing workshop. Youth will take part in an urban mission trip to San Francisco during spring break.

Tualatin Plains, Hillsboro welcomed interim pastor Sayer Strauch. The youth group holds a Soup Sunday after worship to raise funds for their Mission Team. The session voted to sponsor James Hieter as a "Preparation for Ministry" applicant.

Valley Community, Portland - A Lenten "Journey through grief" group will gather during these five weeks. The Valley Prayer Shawl Ministry recently sent shawls via Northminster Presbyterian Church in Tucson to be given to those affected by the recent shootings in Arizona.

Bethany, Portland - Barbara Miner, a manager at Intel was shown helping President Obama work on a computer during his visit. The Stephen Ministry has a Caregivers Compass with four directions which are to bring compassion, to have Full Faith, to be trustworthy and to be skilled.

South Region

By Tam Moore

A monthly "Committee Day" has come to **First, Merrill**. After a leadership retreat involving session and deacons, the second Sunday of each month is set for committee meetings, starting at 11:30 a.m. after the post-worship fellowship hour. Pastor Bill Heming says leaders hope more members of the congregation will get involved in committee work. There are six standing committees at Merrill. All meet at the same time, with the pastor sticking his head into each. Members of the congregation have an open invitation to join any committee by contacting the clerk of session or pastor.

At **Bethany, Grants Pass**, the annual leadership retreat led to formation of a team charged with facilitating the updated mission and goals of the congregation. The four member team and Pastor Steve Parker will

work with session, staff and deacons to not only implement the long range plan but "create an atmosphere where ideas are welcome and where people can use their gifts to do ministry." The process is expected to unfold over a three year period, with an eye on developing leaders in the congregation to carry out various ministries.

There's also going to be a search at **First, Ashland**, where the congregation in January voted to open an associate pastor position and appointed a Pastor Nominating Committee. The action followed the departure of the congregation's director of Christian Education, Nikki Perrine Passant, who left to become an ordained associate pastor at a Media, Pennsylvania Presbyterian congregation.

At **Westminster, Medford** there was a changing of the interims in early March. Interim pastor Rev. Dr. Rolfe Granath left to accept a call as transition pastor to the Lake Tahoe Community Presbyterian Church. Session has again asked the Rev. George Nye, a retired American Baptist pastor and active participant in the congregation, to fill in as transition pastor and head of staff while the Pastor Nominating Committee completes its search for a pastor, head of staff. Nye served a similar role in 2010 when Rev. Alan Jackson retired and the search for an interim launched.

First, Medford launched its annual participation in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life with a Spaghetti Feed. Over seventy folks attended with the children and youth volunteering as servers. The "Three Bases" offered entertainment. Luminaries were lit and a prayer was offered in memory of the many beloved folks who have succumbed to cancer in the congregation. Funds will go for research to find a cure. This is the fifth year the congregation has participated in the community event.

Leadership Fair provides Fellowship and Insights

By Nancy Gaston

"We have experienced the collapse of Christendom, but as church we still function as if we were in the old world," keynote Anthony Robinson told the more than 130 attendees at the Cascades Leadership Fair recently.

Robinson highlighted some significant differences in the movement from Christendom to the church of today:

- From attraction (if you build it, they will come)—to missional, going out to serve people where they are. They will not come to you.
- From assimilation of members who

transfer in to serving and engaging those with no history with Christianity.

- From evangelism to hospitality and service.
- From going out from a Christian nation to the rest of the world to serving in the mission field right here.
- From the assumption that we have a superior culture to no prior assumptions.
- From talking and teaching to listening and learning.
- From theories, concepts and propositions to narrative, stories and pictures—"the Jesus method."
- From strategic planning to just-in-time



Anthony Robinson offers new vision to today's churches.

planning in response to changing opportunities

- From slow change to rapid, discontinuous change.
- From emphasis on church structure to "raising up leaders for the mission of God."

Robinson acknowledged that we are in the muddy Jordan River, crossing from the known past to the unfolding future. We follow a sending God who sent his Son and who sends us into a time of new learning and adaptive change, developing the skills as we go along.

Besides the stimulating keynote, attendees chose from sixteen workshops on topics ranging from becoming a "green" church to partnering with other congregations in local mission. Watch for news soon of the plans for next February's Leadership Fair.

TRANSITIONS

WELCOME NEW PASTORS

- **Candidate Jennifer Lynn Warner**, transferring from the Presbytery of San Francisco to serve as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Bend, beginning April 10, 2011, pending ordination

PASTORAL CHANGES

- **The Rev. John W. Ailstock**, completed service as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville, January 31, 2011
- **The Rev. Rolfe J. Granath**, completed service as interim pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Medford, March 9, 2011
- **The Rev. Sayer C. Strauch**, serving as interim pastor of Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro, beginning February 1, 2011

TRANSFERS

- **The Rev. W. Scott Dalgarno**, transferred to the Presbytery of Utah to serve as pastor of Wasatch Presbyterian Church, Salt Lake City

Voices

By Jeremy Watson, Associate Pastor St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, member of the Outdoor Ministry Team, Co-Dean of Suttle Lake Jr High Camp

Camps and retreats have been a part of my life since I was in third grade. My life and my call to ministry have been profoundly shaped by my experiences at camp. It is one of my highest priorities to make sure that my Church, and by that I mean my local church, my denomination, and the Church universal, continues to offer camp experiences for everyone.

When children, youth and adults leave behind our everyday lives in order to spend time in authentic Christian community, it deepens our faith and commitment to the Lord. When we immerse ourselves in a community that is centered around worship, study, playing together, praying together, and face-to-face conversations around communal meals, we grow closer to God, and we grow closer together as God's people.

In our fast-paced and, often scattered lives, the Outdoor Ministry Team believes that it is vital, it is necessary for us to retreat. It is necessary for us to move away from all the trappings of life and to experience a separate and distinct Christian community, even if only for one weekend, to deepen our faith and commitment to Christ and to His body, the Church.

Kenda Creasy Dean, Professor of Youth, Church, and Culture at Princeton Seminary recently wrote a fantastic book about the faith of teenagers called *Almost Christian*. Kenda shares,

"The most common faith immersions in youth ministry are camps, retreats, mission trips, youth conferences, and other temporary Christian subcultures that plunge teenagers into communities that are structured to emphasize God's immediacy and activity. In the Christian camp or retreat subculture, daily rhythms may be patterned on gospel narratives, and religious language may be used without censure. Ideally, participating in a congregation offers a similar plunge into Christian community, but except for highly sectarian groups that operate almost



Campers enjoying a beautiful day at Suttle Lake

exclusively behind the wall, most American congregations have difficulty separating themselves from the dominant culture. Most teenagers find it easier to make out the Christian community's distinctiveness in the wilderness, at a conference, or in some other demarcated zone where young people themselves help construct idealized versions of the world they think God intends.

Religious camps have impressive records of helping young people become more intentional about devotion, more secure in their faith identities, and therefore more confident and explicit in telling the God-story of their tradition . . . **It comes as no surprise that religious communities with the largest number of highly devoted teenagers in the NSYR (National Study of Youth and Religion) were the ones most likely to send their young people to camp.**" *Almost Christian*, p. 154)

The Outdoor Ministry Team has no doubts about the accuracy of those findings, as we see lives changed at camp, and as we seek to provide camps and retreats for everyone in this Presbytery. We have camps for elementary school children, middle school students, high school students, moms and kids, dads and kids, drama camp, and

family camp. This past summer there were 138 children, 205 teenagers, and 165 family members who participated as campers. There were also 60 students and 70 adults who were able to serve as camp staff in some capacity. For many of those high school and college students who serve as work crew or camp counselors, camp is a powerful entry into a life of ministry, as I'm sure many of you can attest to. **For how many of you did a camp leadership experience contribute to your call to a life of ministry?**

For every one of those campers and camp staff, there are stories worth telling about the impact that camp had on their lives. In closing I want to share just one of those stories with you. This is from an email that was sent to Biz Larkin, our Camp Coordinator, from the parent of a camper;

"I was the designated parent-driver for three of our teens from **First, North Bend**. I had expected the kids to be so exhausted that they'd sleep all the way home. Instead, those three impressed me so much with a four hour conversation about what a great time they had and how our greater community has faith resources that are unique and could build on the spiritual growth that was achieved at Magruder . . . It is exciting to see. The kids talked about special counselors and kids they have seen growth in over a few years and those who seemed to have much deeper needs in their lives than "we do." I remained quiet much of the time as these kids expressed the wonderful assessments of what it is to live as a Christian . . . It is wonderful to see them growing up with a level of maturity that is both Godly and insightful toward others' needs. Thank you for the work you do, you and everyone in roles of leadership and execution of the Presbyterian Summer camps. It is effort that has a big payoff in the lives of so many young people and I am thankful for the glimpse into the changes taking place in a few I am closest to. May God empower you with the Holy Spirit for his work today and always."

The impact of those three teenagers having their lives shaped in such a way by one week of camp is beyond our ability to measure. Who knows what impact that week will have on their continuing lives, and the lives of those they impact in the future? I hope you see a vision of what God is doing in our wilderness.

On behalf of the Outdoor Ministry Team, I want to thank this Presbytery for its' long legacy of support for camps and retreats, and urge you all to continue advocating for these life-changing experiences in whatever capacity you find yourself in.



Jeremy and co-dean Kathleen Fast sharing good times with the campers at Suttle Lake Super Hero Summit Jr High Camp last summer



Prayer Calendar

The Professional Support Committee is pleased to present this Prayer Calendar for Cascades Presbytery. Every congregation, minister member, candidate and committee is listed on a day appropriate to them. You are invited to use this list in your daily devotions. Please contact the South office if there are any additions or corrections.

May 2011

- 1 Dennis Dusek, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000
- 2 Anne E. Zimmerman, ordained this day in 1993
- 3 Stasia V. Van Buskirk, candidate for the ministry, Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie
- 4 William F. Stevens, installed as pastor of United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport, this day in 2008
- 5 Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene - chartered this day in 1855
- 6 Mary C. McKnight & Thomas D. McKnight installed as co-pastors of Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2001
- 7 Olivet Presbyterian Church, Glendale - chartered this day in 1901
- 8 Yong Chul Chung, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1983
- 9 Charles O. Willming, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1996
- 10 Gerald M. Allin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1998
- 11 Richard D. Diller, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2004 • Synod of the Pacific meets today through May 13
- 12 Helen E. Lewis, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001
- 13 Guigui Roberts, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2002, serving as parish associate at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn
- 14 First Presbyterian Church, Lakeview - chartered this day in 1911 • Hillsboro Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1967
- 15 First Presbyterian Church, Salem - chartered this day in 1869 • Clatskanie Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1904
- 16 Scott T. Crane, Certified Christian Educator
- 17 Elliott Bernadel-Huey, ordained this day in 1987
- 18 Steven R. Parker, installed as pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grants Pass, this day in 1986
- 19 Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego - chartered in 1925 • Dwayne & Victoria Brown installed as co-pastors of First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg, this day in 2002
- 20 Marc D. Andresen, installed as pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Corvallis, this day in 1990 • Mark E. Newton, installed as pastor of Mt. Scott Park Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2001 • Sandra F. Collins, installed as pastor of First United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Point, this day in 2007
- 21 Presbytery Council meets today, Bob Bulkley, Chair
- 22 Committee on Ministry - Central Region, Bruce Cameron, Chair
- 23 Frances Elton, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 24 First Presbyterian Church, Astoria - chartered this day in 1877
- 25 Westminster Foundation - Lorne Bostwick, Chair
- 26 John A. Waide, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2005
- 27 Herbert D. Long, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994, serving as President of Process Work Institute
- 28 Catherine R. Quackenbush, ordained this day in 1989, serving as Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Cascades
- 29 Mission Support Committee - Ted Envela, Chair
- 30 Michaela R. Drummond, granted Honorably Retired status month day in 2005
- 31 Michael R. O'Brien, ordained this day in 1992

• Audrey L. Schindler, installed as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Eugene, this day in 2009

June 2011

- 1 Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro - chartered this day in 1909 • Bruce M. Sexton, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Mill City this day in 1997 • Carley J. Friesen, ordained this day in 1986, serving as stated supply associate pastor at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, Portland • Richard A. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2004 • Elizabeth Crawford, ordained this day in 1998 • Carolyn S. Hampton, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2010
- 2 John Knox Presbyterian Church, Keizer - chartered this day in 1963 • A. Michael Brown ordained this day in 1974, serving as interim pastor of Garden City United Church of Canada, Sannich, British Columbia
- 3 William J. Jackson, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985 • Craig C. Stein, installed as pastor of Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church, Eagle Creek, this day in 2007
- 4 Grace Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this month in 1926 • Leslie D. Hall (Methodist), ordained this day in 1983, serving as stated supply pastor McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, Waltherville
- 5 Paul H. Kimmel, Jr., granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1985
- 6 Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard - chartered this day in 1965 • Michael K. Gillespie, ordained this day in 1982, serving as chaplain at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Roseburg
- 7 Jae Doo Chung, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2003
- 8 Mark V. Rainey, installed as pastor of Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro, this day in 1986 • Adam W. Grosch, installed as associate pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Salem, this day in 2008
- 9 Robert H. Roach, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1989 • William H. Creevey, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997
- 10 Community Presbyterian Church, Tulelake - chartered this day in 1935 • Gateway Presbyterian Church, The Dalles - chartered this day in 1956
- 11 H. Rodney Landes, ordained this day in 1972, serving as a private practice psychologist • East Woods Presbyterian Church, Vancouver - chartered this day in 2000
- 12 William C. Dixon, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1999
- 13 Evergreen Community Presbyterian Church, Cook, Washington - chartered this day in 1954 • Gregory D. Ikehara-Martin, installed as pastor of Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst, Portland, this day in 2004
- 14 Calvin Presbyterian Church, Corvallis - chartered this day in 1958 • First Presbyterian Church, North Bend - chartered this day in 1903
- 15 Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1873
- 16 John C. Huenink, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2010
- 17 David C. Lee, ordained this day in 1973, serving as interim pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 18 Robert R. Woodcock, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1989
- 19 Larry V.R. Bunnell, ordained this day in 1988 • S. Ann Richards, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001, serving as parish associate at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Gresham

- 20 Philip A. Nessel, installed as pastor of Tri City United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Creek, this day in 2004
- 21 Jon O. Nestor, ordained this day 1992, serving as counselor at Olympic Pastoral Counseling Center, Newport
- 22 Lucille Rieben, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1992
- 23 Robert O. Ellerby, ordained this day in 1974, serving as parish associate at First Presbyterian Church, Oregon City • John W. Ailstock, ordained this day in 1991
- 24 Paulette Mixon-Weller, ordained this day in 2001 • Cascades Presbytery meets today and tomorrow, Richard Neese, Moderator
- 25 Mark T. Frey, ordained this day in 1979, serving as Western Area Board of Pensions representative • Michael A. Pyburn, installed as pastor of Pioneer Presbyterian Church, Warrenton, this day in 2006
- 26 United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport - chartered this day in 1919
- 27 Philip Meddaugh, ordained this day in 1971
- 28 Christopher E. Von Lobedan, ordained this day in 1992, serving as chaplain for the Oregon Department of Corrections
- 29 W. Michael McCall, installed as pastor of Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, this day in 1986 • R. Michael Stuart, ordained this day in 1986 • John W. Wallace, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2008
- 30 Donald W. Taylor, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Newport, this day in 1991 • J. Philip Park, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001 • Richard J. Cochran, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1985 • Michael A. Grunwald, ordained this day in 1985 • Donald R. Purkey, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000 • Jack D. Hodges, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005 • Douglas D. Rich, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2004 • David P. McDaniels, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2007 • Darrell C. Hall, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2010 • Patricia E. Vanderpol, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2010



Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

Vacant

Corvallis, First (Associate Pastor)
McMinnville (Pastor)
Medford, First
Portland, Grace
Waldport, Community

Preparing to Actively Seek

Ashland, First (Associate Pastor)
Klamath Falls, First (Associate Pastor)

Actively Seeking a Pastor (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Medford, Westminster
Portland, Westminster
Vancouver, East Woods

Presbytery Highlights

Editor's Note: These are the highlights of the March 11-12 meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades, held at Bethany Presbyterian church in Grants Pass, Oregon and excerpted by the editor from the notes of Stated Clerk Cathy Quackenbush. A more complete report may be found on the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.

“Behold, I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it?”

(Isaiah 43:19a)

- On recommendation of the Committee on Ministry – Central, the presbytery voted to concur with the action of First Presbyterian Church, Bend, Oregon to approve the call of Jennifer Lynn Warner to serve as their full time associate pastor pending satisfactory completion of the requirements for ordination, beginning April 10, 2011. The Presbytery later examined and voted to sustain her examination.
- The presbytery received a report from the Administrative Commission to Brownsville United Presbyterian Church and voted to approve the congregation's request to be dissolved as of November 30, 2010. A service of remembrance and thanksgiving for the long ministry of the Brownsville Church followed, led by members of the Administrative Commission. A display of memorabilia from the Brownsville Church was available throughout the meeting.
- The Mission Support Committee presented an exercise in exploring cultural proficiency, led by the Cultural Proficiency Advocacy Team (CPAT). Commissioners divided into small groups and responded to the following questions: What do you think are some of the key differences between neighborhood and brother/sisterhood? What can you do as an individual to help our presbytery become more of a brotherhood/sisterhood? What can you do to transform our congregations and society into becoming more like a brotherhood/sisterhood? What will you do to transform our congregations and society into more of a brotherhood/sisterhood?
- The Westminster Foundation report was presented by the Rev. Jennifer Martin, who brought news about the campus ministries of the presbytery, including a new building



project for the University of Oregon Campus Ministry and Central Presbyterian Church of Eugene. Also reported was that the Campus Ministry at Southern Oregon University is closing.

- On recommendation from the Board of trustees, the presbytery approved a request from First Presbyterian Church, Newberg, Oregon to modify the church roof for a solar panel installation.
- Elder John Brinegar presented a report from the Personnel and Administration Committee. A special sub committee has been working on the assigned task of recommending presbytery staffing cuts beginning in 2012. They will report their recommendations to Presbytery Council in May, 2011.
- Media Resource Center Director, Maureen O'Rourke was recognized for her completion of certification as Certified Resource Director by the Presbyterian Association of Resource centers.
- Presbytery Council presented a report from the Church Vitality and Growth Task Force. Commissioners were divided into small groups and asked to discuss the question, “What are we supposed to be learning from declining budgets and membership?” Responses from the groups were collected and will be used in a discernment process by the task force. The task force will be reporting and facilitating further conversation at

future meetings of Council and Presbytery.

- Following the recess for dinner, commissioners participated in a small group listening exercise, around tables, focusing on the



Jennifer Warner examined by Presbytery

possible practical implications for churches and presbyteries of the Amendment 10-A - the gifts and requirements for ordination.

- The first day of meeting concluded with a service of worship which included a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Rev. Steven Parker, music provided by the host church's musicians and choir. The Rev. Dr. Paul Galbreath preached. The liturgy was led by the Rev. Sandra Collins and the Rev. Christopher Ward. The offering of \$622.22 was received for One Great Hour of Sharing.
- The Relational Support Committee utilized the “Holy Spirit Ping Pong Raffle Machine” to match 14 congregations who have committed to participate in the Presbytery Pulpit Exchange on May 15, 2011.
- After a 50 minute debate concerning the 219th General Assembly Amendments to the Constitution, the presbytery voted by a majority to concur with all but Amendment 10-M. Information on the content of the amendments, is posted on the Presbytery and General Assembly websites.
- The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be June 24-25 at Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard, Oregon. On November 11-12, the Stated Meeting will be at First Presbyterian Church in Corvallis, Oregon.



First, Bethany's Choir helps lead worship